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Help Spread The Word

At virtually every show, someone comes up to us and says something to the effect of, "I've lived in Columbus all my life, but I had no idea there was an organization like this in town... someone who presents the kind of music I love, in an environment where I can actually enjoy it."

We tend see those new patrons again and again.

We've been working to expand our outreach over the past several years, but as an organization dedicated to keeping ticket prices low, we don't have a massive marketing budget to afford a huge megaphone. So we rely heavily on word of mouth.

Perhaps more than any other recent season, this season's line-up is perfect for sharing.

We have some great shows coming up that would be a great introduction - like Red Horse (Kaplansky, Gorka and Gilkyson in one show!), Darrell Scott, and David Wilcox. And the second half of the season also features more of our all-time favorites: Cheryl Wheeler, Catie Curtis, and Dougie MacLean.

Just by knowing about Six String Concerts you're part of a special community, linked by a passion for music. Help us expand that community by introducing us to your friends.

If you've ever said to yourself, "You know who would like this is...", then this is the time to make that invitation. It might just have been how you heard about us in the first place.

In your responses to this year's survey, we found that nearly half of our audience learned about Six String Concerts from a friend. And of those patrons who have brought a friend to a show, more than 90% say their friend has come back to another show.

So, check out this season's artists in this newsletter, listen to song samples on our website or facebook page, and bring a friend to a performance.

They'll thank you for it. *(And so will we!)*



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Students with a valid ID can purchase discounted tickets through any of the above methods. Be sure to mention you're a student, and have your ID ready at the door.

DISCOUNTED YOUTH TICKETS

To encourage all the future folk fans out there to nurture an impeccable taste in good music, we offer discounted tickets for everyone under 18!

DISCOUNTED SEASON TICKETS

Save even more on ticket prices and service charges with our full and half season ticket packages.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

- Purchase tickets
- Learn about upcoming shows
- View concert photos
- Browse an archive of past performances
- Link to artist websites & song samples

www.SixString.org

RED HORSE ELIZA GILKYSON,

What's better than having Eliza Gilkyson, John Gorka, or Lucy Kaplansky scheduled to perform during Six String Concerts' 24th season? Having all three of them appear together, in the form of a veritable folk super group, Red Horse.

Although they have been friends for years and recorded on each other's albums, this is the first truly collaborative effort by the trio. Inspired by shows they did during a tour to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Red House Records, their mutual label, they decided to make a recording together, which has been a treat for all involved. (The band's moniker comes from a play on 'Red House' Records.)

Their self-titled collaboration album, released in 2010, takes the listener on a tour of both covers and new material, including a previously unreleased song penned by Gorka. The artists each present new versions of their bandmates' songs and cover standards by other artists like Neil Young. Blending superb writing skills, top-notch vocals and talented acoustic guitar, Gilkyson, Gorka and Kaplansky will surely delight the acoustic folk fan.

Of course, each artist adds something special to the mix:

Eliza Gilkyson comes by her talent honestly – her father is folk singer/songwriter Terry Gilkyson, and her brother Tony is also an established musician and songwriter. Born in California, Eliza is described by her label as a “politically minded, poetically gifted singer-songwriter.” In fact, she is the co-founder of 5604 Manor, in the city where she lives, Austin, Texas. This project seeks to increase political activism around social justice issues. Gilkyson's most recent album, *Roses at the End of Time*, was released this past May, and features her Red Horse colleagues on a cover of one of her brother's songs. This album is a stellar follow-up to her well-received 2007 live album *Your Town Tonight*.

John Gorka has been recording for more than 20 years – his first album was released by Red House in 1987. Gorka subsequently recorded with other labels, returning to Red House 10 years later. Gorka was born in New Jersey, and attended college in Bethlehem, PA. While there, he played in a band that would later include another perpetual Six String favorite, Richard Shindell. Gorka



JOHN GORKA & LUCY KAPLANSKY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd
\$30 ADVANCE
COLUMBUS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

now lives in Minneapolis, near St. Paul, with his wife and child. Gorka's most recent solo CD, *So Dark You See* features the Red Horse members on several songs. *Popmatters* suggests this album is a must for Gorka fans or "followers of well-presented, mature, reflective folk."

Lucy Kaplansky's road within folk music has been a bit more winding. After moving to New York at age 18 and singing with the likes of Suzanne Vega and Shawn Colvin, Kaplansky completed a Ph.D. in Psychology and opened a private practice. She returned to music full time in 1994. Kaplansky may have inherited this dual focus – her father Irving, a mathematician and pianist, is memorialized on Lucy's latest album in a song called "Today's the Day." Previous

efforts from the poignant songwriter included "The Red Thread" which documents her journey to adopt her daughter and the album which brought her commercial success, *Ten Year Night*. This also isn't Kaplansky's only folk super group appearance – she toured extensively as part of Cry, Cry, Cry with Dar Williams and Richard Shindell. Kaplansky has been described by *The New Yorker* as

"a truly gifted performer with strong flat picking and a bagful of enchanting songs."

We're pleased to present what the *Christian Science Monitor* described as "three of the warmest voices in folk music" for an intimate show in which Gilkyson predicts the artists will, "challenge and inspire each other to throw down our best stuff."

“Three of the warmest voices in folk music.”

-- *Christian Science Monitor*



SUPPORT IS PROVIDED IN PART BY:



Troubadour is published twice annually by Six String Concerts, Inc., a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to promoting regional and national acoustic performing songwriters not otherwise heard in Columbus. The concerts are held primarily in smoke- and alcohol-free environments which provide mutual satisfaction to the audience and artists.

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DARRELL SCOTT

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 / \$22 ADVANCE
COLUMBUS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

If you are a musician, prepare to be humbled. If you are a fan, prepare to be thrilled. Darrell Scott is that good.

Scott was born in London, Kentucky, in 1959 and moved with his family to East Gary, Indiana. As a teenager, he left for California where he became a professional musician. He later headed east and enrolled in Tufts University, studying poetry and literature, before finally landing in Nashville in 1995.

Scott has carved a successful niche as a session musician, songwriter and performer. His songs have been recorded by more than 70 artists – especially his “You’ll Never Get Out of Harlan Alive”, covered by Brad Paisley, Kathy Mattea, Patti Loveless, and Red Molly. As a writer and performer, he has collaborated with the likes of Guy Clark, Steve Earle, Emmylou Harris, and Jimmy Dale Gilmore.

Most recently, he toured with Robert Plant’s Band of Joy, along with Patty Griffin and Buddy Miller, no doubt selected for his virtuosity on vocals, mandolin, guitar, accordion, pedal, lap steel and banjo. *Gritz Magazine* described him with “one word – genius.” Yep, he’s good.

Over the years he has recorded 8 albums, including his latest, *A Crooked Road*, for which he wrote all 20 songs and played all instruments. The Independent Music Awards named it Country Album of the Year and he won Album of the Year for 2004’s



Theatre of the Unheard. His song “Hank Williams’ Ghost” was AMA’s 2007 Song of the Year. NSAI named him 2001 Songwriter of the Year and ASCAP followed in 2002.

Despite his success, Scott retains the simplicity of his rural Kentucky roots. *A Crooked Road* was recorded in his home and when he performs solo, “I walk in with an acoustic guitar and if they have a piano, great, I’ll play that. I just see it all as music and the truth is I love doing my own stuff and I find it really refreshing to do my own thing”.

Family is another priority. His brothers have frequently performed onstage with him and he helped his father, Wayne Scott, release his debut album at 71 years of age. (Dad’s pretty good, too.)

“... the best of the best.”

-- Performing Songwriter

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DAVID WILCOX

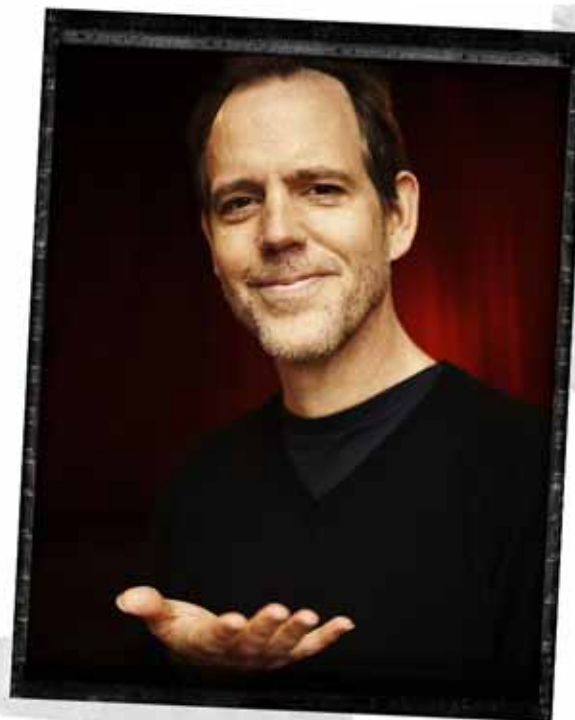
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4 / \$20 ADVANCE
MARTIN JANIS CENTER**

“Why isn’t David Wilcox a big star?” asked the Washington Post. Certainly not for lack of talent.

In 2008, *Acoustic Guitar Magazine* awarded Wilcox and Bob Dylan its Silver Certificate for singer/songwriters. *The Los Angeles Times* described his guitar playing as “eschew[ing] simplistic strumming in favor of expressive finger-picking.” His pleasing baritone is often compared to James Taylor and the quality of his lyrics praised by critics. The 17 albums he has recorded have been well-received and he has built a large, loyal fan base. *Rolling Stone* stated, “David Wilcox’s ongoing musical journey [is]... compelling and richly deserving of a listen.” So, why isn’t he a big star? Maybe it’s not part of his plan.

Born in Mentor, Ohio, in 1959, Wilcox attended Antioch College where he learned to play guitar. He soon relocated to North Carolina, where he currently lives, and in 1987 released his first album, *Nightshift Watchman*. Signing with A&M Records in 1989, he released several albums that one critic described as “unjustly neglected.” After the deal ended in 1994, he has continued to write, record, and tour primarily as a solo act.

Travel, literally and figuratively, is a frequent theme for Wilcox. He once said he plays music in order to travel and that “I love music that moves me, but only if it moves me forward. I don’t want to sing songs that stay stuck in the same old illusions that fooled me before.” Another time, he described his dance with his musical muse as “like walking a big dog. You don’t know who’s walking who.” His concerts take audiences on the journey and his pleasant, easy-going stage presence makes for a fun trip. This is highlighted in his most recent album, *Reverie*, recorded live at The Monastery in Cincinnati.



Although he sings of serious things, Wilcox has a sense of humor as demonstrated by his current project, *The Concert for the End of the World*. It is scheduled for December 22, 2012, the day after the Mayan Calendar ends and possibly life as we know it. Not surprisingly, tickets are non-refundable.

“...brilliantly articulate guitar,
an honestly pretty baritone,
and deft lyrics...”

-- Boston Globe



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STEPPIN' IN IT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 / \$20 ADVANCE
MCCONNELL ARTS CENTER OF WORTHINGTON

Michigan roots-rockers Steppin' In It convey the wonder of the American spirit and also its heartache. The band celebrates traditional roots music through plaintive vocals and sweet harmonies, plus some staggering musicianship.

The quartet has earned a reputation for its mastery of traditional American styles and its incredible variety of vintage instruments. Composer/guitarist Joshua Davis, upright bassist Dominic Suchyta, steel guitarist Joe Wilson and harmonica player Andy Wilson create what Performing Songwriter calls "some of the liveliest and most rocking acoustic roots music around."

It all adds up to a sound that's as comfortable with folk and bluegrass elements as it is with the finger-snapping R&B of Louis Jordan. "Crowds love the variety of instruments and the variety of music we play,"

Suchyta says. And each region of the country has a different favorite.

Steppin' In It formed more than ten years ago when its four members were students at Michigan State University in East Lansing. They came together from different influences; Suchyta and Wilson were both fans of the blues, Davis enjoyed folk, and Wilson had an affinity for country and swing.

"We just kinda figured all of these really tied together," Suchyta said. "All are American folk music styles."

The effect the band brings to its concerts is that of an old-time radio broadcast, the kind from pre-television days when Americans actually sat together in living rooms and watched their radios. The main difference, Suchyta said, is that Steppin' In It shows are "without the nostalgia, without the vaudeville jokes and stuff. It's more of a concert, just music."

"... some of the liveliest and most rocking acoustic roots music around... "

— Performing Songwriter Magazine



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LEELA & ELLIE GRACE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 / \$20 ADVANCE
COLUMBUS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Leela and Ellie Grace have spent their entire young lives immersed in the music of America, and with the traditions that accompany that music.

Their music embodies strong ties to the traditionalist side of American and old-time string band music. These daughters of Paul and Win Grace spent the early part of their careers performing with their parents as “The Grace Family”. For the past decade they have been touring as a duo featuring Leela on banjo and guitar, while Ellie handles duties on the mandolin, guitar and violin. Delicate sister-harmonies breathe warmth into the songs. Both ladies are sought-after studio session musicians having performed on a long list of other artists’ material. They bring a warm, interactive persona to the stage with them and when the song calls for dance, they are more than happy to bring that rhythm to life with their feet!

In 2003, they released their self-titled debut duo CD, which was acclaimed by folk critics and fans and received widespread radio play on folk radio stations across the country. In his review in *Sing Out!* Rich Warren said, “Leela and Ellie Grace soar off this disc like a breath of fresh air in the smoky atmosphere of singer-songwriters. This lively recording, exquisitely produced by Pete Sutherland, is truly a joy to behold. . . If you’re hesitant to take a chance on new artists, rest assured this CD will leave you in a state of grace.”

Their follow-up release, *Where the Water’s Run*, has also received critical acclaim. *Dirty Linen* called it, “a smart and harmonious set, mostly comprising original songs with a bright sound and an uplifting outlook.” The review went on to say, “Their blend of complementary mountain-clear voices recalls the sound of groups like the Wailin’ Jennies and Uncle Earl, and the arrangements featuring mandolin, fiddle, banjo, and guitar also place them firmly in the modern American roots realm.”

The sisters have performed at prestigious venues across the United States and Canada, ranging from the Winnipeg Folk Festival to the Lincoln Center in New York City to the Summer Solstice Festival in Los Angeles.

“ Their work is among the freshest and best anywhere on the American folk music scene. ”

-- Kent Anderson, Folk DJ, KCSC



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2011/2012 SEASON - FIRST HALF

★ Performance Schedule ★

RED HORSE

(Eliza Gilkyson, John Gorka, Lucy Kaplansky)
 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - \$30 ADVANCE

DARRELL SCOTT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 - \$22 ADVANCE

DAVID WILCOX

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4 - \$20 ADVANCE

MARTIN JANIS CENTER, 600 EAST 11TH AVENUE, COLUMBUS

STEPPIN' IN IT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9 - \$20 ADVANCE

MCCONNELL ARTS CENTER OF WORTHINGTON
 777 EVENING STREET, WORTHINGTON

LEELA & ELLIE GRACE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 - \$20 ADVANCE



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